OLD FORT WASHINGTON.

It Was a Stout Defans; and Grand Structure

But Must Now Give Way for More Modern Earthworks.

in Its Time,

Old Fort Washington, on the Potomac river, is garrisoned by one soldier, Sorgt. R. F. Joyce, of the ordnance department. The sorgeant has his family with him, and lives in the old ivy-covered house, surrounded with broad verandas, that was at one time occupied by the commanding officer of the fort. Fort Washington is one of the oldest defenses in the United States. The work of constructing it was commenced in of Gen. Lafayette's engineer staff officers, under the personal supervision of Gen. Washington. The structure was not completed until after the war of 1812, and even after that date many improvements were made. After the completion of the fort it was regarded as one of the strongest and most impregnable defenses in the world. Gen. Lafayette visited the spot during his second visit to this country. After a tour of limportion through the underground chambers and outside rifle pits, he turned to the commanding officer and remarked: "This is the Gibraltar of America." 1808 from plans prepared by one

Gibraltar of America. A reporter of THE REPUBLICAN went through the fort yesterday, and viewed the ancient and massive masonry of war. The engineer planned many ingenious ways of preventing surprises by shore parties. The high and sloping declivities from the parapots to the water's edge are covered by stone-crested vite nits and admits conceased small same all cannot be supported by the contraction of the contr the water's edge are covered by stone-crested rifle pits and adroltly concealed small cannon for firing grape and canister. The Potomac fronting the south end of the fort presents the appearance of a vast lake. The river turns at that point, and the curving stream winds gracefully about the high bird on which the fort stands. The large, smooth bore barlette guns, which were formerly mounted on the south end, commanded at least five miles of the river below, and in olden times it would have been impossible for any of the old wooden line-of-battle shirs to have even reached the bend before they were riddled with cannon balls. The interior of the old fort presents a very dispidated appearance. It has not been garrisened since the late rebellion. The parade grounds and walls are overgrown with weeds and grass, and the frame structures have long since gone to decay.

In view of the fact that the brick and

In view of the fact that the brick and stone walls of the fort would soon eramble into dust before the terrific fire of modern artillery, the government has decided to dismantle the old structure, and work has al-ready been commenced. It is estimated that at least 10,000,000 bricks were used in the construction of Fort Washington. As fast as these bricks are taken out of the walls and

these bricks are taken out of the walls and casements they are broken into fine pleces and piled on the shore for use by the government in constructing other doienses at that very strategic point. The latter will consist of a sories of formidable earthworks, extending around the river shore. Already soveral earth batteries have been finished and mounted with guns. Sergt. Joyce said there were enough bricks in the entire fort and its connections to build a fair sized city. The cells of the old guard house, at the postern, extend away underground. The air meide is cold and clanmy and long icide designs of sparkling soda and other minerals have formed from the curved walls and extend hearly to the stone flooring. On the chimney of the the stone flooring. On the chimney of the guard house is a large wooden am dial, with faded figures that has told the time of day for over fifty years. If congress appropriates the amount asked for the old landmark will in a few years be entirely obliterated and re-placed by modern defenses.

NIHILISTS AND CZARS.

William Armstrong's Lecture Upon Rus-

sian Despots and Patriots. Last evening at Lincoln hall Hon. Wm. J. Armstrong repeated the lecture which he delivered before an immense audience at Cooper institute, New York, upon the subject, "The Nihilist." The audience that

ject, "The Nihilist." The audience that listened to his able and elequent lecture was not large, but an intelligent one, and quite a number of ladies were present.

Mr. Armstrong was introduced by Col. Robert U. Ingersell, who said: "Every philosopher and student of history knows that behind everything is a cause, that one extreme produces another, that the extreme power reduces another, that the extreme power exercised by an autocrat produces assassing too, but that the killing of the autocrat, and the hanging of the assassin, does not remove the cause. We have got to go back and remove the cause. Tom Paine said, the cause, W the cause. We have got to go back and remove the cause. Tom Paine said, then us destroy the monarchy, and not the king. I believe that an absolutely honest man is far better than any king or tyrant. I have not the slightest patience with socialism or communism. Here in the United States we have laws made by the people; the people have the same amount of power, be they a Lazarus or a Dives, a mondicant or a millionaire. If the laws are not faithfully carried out it is not the fault of the people. I have no sympathy with socialism. people. I have no sympathy with socialism, and I do not want the tyranny of an autocrat. In another country where an autocrat chaims to be the head of the church and crat claims to be the head of the church and has an immense standing army, a place called Siberia, to which men, women, and children are sent, we shall hear about from one who to-night will tell us the story of the tyranny of Eussis. I hate an autocrat, who puts his will for the will of the people. Kossuth said that 'Bussia was the rock against which sighs for freedom break.' Eussia is the worst governed country in the world. Whatover is being done in Russia the reason for it is the oppression which mankind endures."

Col. Ingersoll's remarks were greated with applause.

applaute.

The lecturer, Mr. Armstrong, appeared in a full dreas costume. He is perfectly familiar from his travels with the vast domain of Russia, is a man of fine personal appearance, has a graceful delivery, and a clear connection. His lecture for over two hours was attentively listened to, but he failed to clicit any entirelisms on the part of the audience.

attentively listened to, but he failed to elicit any enthusiasm on the part of the audience. He commenced with a dramatic recital of the assassination of the Emporor Alexander III, its transmission by cable to the remotest portions of the globe, and its publication through the magic types of the printer. A coterie of nihillats was formed under one Michael Bettuni twenty years ago, and its idea was caught up by the democratic party in favor of civil and social reform. They revolted against the most terrible despotism ever known. The civilized world has witnessed the amazing affection that has existed between the fair-haired republic of America and Asiatic Russia, a concord similar to that of the Knights of the Round Table. The exar of Russia thinks there are only two countries—Russia of the Round Table. The exar of Russia thinks there are only two countries—Russia and the United States. The United States and Russia may be first consins, but they never will be Siamese twins. The lecturor referred to the Tartar style of the civil and ecclesiastical government of Russia, and said it was a pity that pagan Russia had ever been Christianized through an ukase of the exar.

Referring to the house of Russia that Peter the Great, was an astute barbarian, who had the heads of scores of his subjects decapitated; that during the reigns of the

decapitated; that during the reigns of the Empresses Anne. Catherine, Paul, and Alex-ander I the nimest atrocities were perpe-trated. Catherine was the most debauched and enlightened of sovereigns, and ascended the throne over the dead body of her hus-

During the reign of Alexander I an at tempt was made to overthrow five hundred years of tyratuy by establishing a republican form of government, but those engaged in the conspiracy were shot down in front of the palace of St. Petersburg by the soldiers of the exar, and some who survived were banished

or life to Siberla.

The death of Alexander I by suicide, the accession of Nicholas, who also ended his life by poison, and the accession of Alexander II, who was assacsinated in February, 1880, by the minitiate were rapidly reviewed by the lecturer, who spoke in anything but flattering their rapids. The omancipation of terms of their reigns. The emancipation of the seris by Alexander II was the result of a least that had been contemplated by his predecessors. The horrors of the Russian dumecons are of diberrie, the espienage of the police, are at the Edukt.

the atrocities perpetrated upon the Polish Jews, &c., were thrillingly related by the

lecturer.

He closed with the statement that the nihilists of Russia are composed of every class of people, from the highest to the lowest, but that there was a difficulty in concentration and concerted action on account of a standing army of 1,000,000 of men and numerous spics to oppose them and the vast dominions of the empire. They, however, threaten the empire at every point. They demand universal suffrage, a representation by the people, the abolition of the standing army and the substitution of a national guard, a better system of education, and will not be a better system of education, and will not be satisfied until they have them. The lecturer was applieded at the close of

his remarks.

PROGRESS AT THE FAIRS. Voting at the Corcoran Cadet and St.

Patrick's Entertainment. At the fair of the Cercoran C det corps last evening the votes of the leading candidates stood as follows: Gold watch-Miss May Elstood as follows: Gold watch—Miss May Eldredge, 40. Double sliding-seat out-rigger—
Winom cleb, 15; A. S. Witherbee, 13. Gold
rinh for lady assistant—Miss Lillie Smith, I.
Lady's dressing case—Miss Katio Davis, I.
Butcher's outilt—Fred Gheen, I. silverheaded cane, C. B. Timms, 1.
Tea set—Mrs. H. A. Hullfish, 12.
Whip for most popular driver—V. Heardon,
2. Silver pitcher—Gen. West, 100. Slik
unbrella—H. D. Nash, 2). Gentleman's rubber coat—R. Gibbons, 1.
A haudsome combination lounge was pre-

ber coat—R. Gibbons, I.

A handsome combination lounge was presented to the fair by C. A. Best. & Co. The 2d artillery band is in attendance every night, and the latter part of the evening is always devoted to dancing. An additional company B booth was started hast evening, with Miss Mary Howe in charge, and Misses Kelley and Katie Howe as assistants.

Mr. W. W. Corcoran viewed the fair room restorder afternoon, and promised to attend

Mr. W. W. Corcoran viewed the fair room yesterday afternoon, and promised to attend the Saturday matinee.

There was a large attendance at St. Patricks fair last night and the various tables were generously patronized. Voting was briskly carried on and the efforts of those who are working in the interests of the candidates briskly carried on and the efforts of those who are working in the interests of the candidates are making it very interesting. The following is the way the voting stood: For meerschaum pipe—Capt. J. W. White, 3; Col. T. B. Hunt, 6; David McKenzie, jr., 4. For the handsome secretory—Rev. J. A. Walter, 106; Rev. J. J. Murpby, 110. For silk umbrella—Rev. J. D. Boland, 66; Rev. C. F. Thomas, 132. For rug—Rev. Father Walter, 32; Rev. Father Thomas, 10; Rev. Father Murphy, 4, and Rev. Father Ryan, 1. For set of harness—James Talty, 7; James Fitz-patrick; 1, and Ed Hamman, 8. For bicycle—A Mattingly, 27; J. Peol, jr., 42; B. Ryan, 10; M. Byrne, 30; C. O. Conner, 42; C. Engle, 51; J. Webster, 72; W. Kearon, 154; H. F. Henry, 137. Cake to most popular sexton—C. L. Clark, 12; Mr. O'Hare, 13. Pyramid cake for an orphan asylum—St. Vincent's, 150; St. Joseph's, 113. Dressing case—T. E. Waggaman, 2; R. E. Holtzman, 1; B. H. Warner, 1; T. J. Fisher, 1. Stove for most popular sexton—C. L. Clark, 45; John Foley, 39; S. Fennel, 2. Gold head cane—J. L. Buckart, 68; A. J. Shulties, 43; Will May, 76; J. J. Harley, 18. Portrait of Rov. Father Walter, to be voted to one of the orphan asylums or to Carroli institute—St. Vincent's, 52; St. Joseph's, 77; Carroll institute, 65. The fair will close Saturday, WANTING TO TRY AGAIN. WANTING TO TRY AGAIN.

Few Republicans Unsuccessful at the

Last Convention Want Another. A very quiet and confidential gathering of members of the central republican committee of the district was held last night at mittee of the district was held last night at the office of Prof. Greener, at the corner of Eleventh and F streets. Mr. A. M. Clapp presided. The object of the meeting was to discuss the advisability of holding a new election of delegates on Tuesday evening next in the twenty-two districts. There was an animated debate. Allusions were made to the means adopted to nominate the present delegates, and the general feeling among those present, most of whom had come solely for that purpose, was in favor of holding a those present, mest of whom had ceme solely for that purpose, was in favor of holding a new convention and electing a new set of delegates. The opinion of the majority present was toward Ingersell. The meeting was protracted by reason of long speeches, and nothing definite was arrived at, except to suggest a call for a full meeting of the central committee Thursday night. It is then proposed to put the question to a vote. Among those present at the meeting way. Measure proposed to put the question to a vote. Among those present at the meeting were Mesars. Dudley, Chase, Murrell, Greener, Adams, Dyson, Richards and others. A reporter of This REPULICAN, in speaking to a well-known local politician about the meeting, gleaned the fact "that the meeting was held by disgranted people and that a proposition was presented to have an immediate call, and that those invited for attack were thereof to be a superior of the second of the invited to attend were supposed to be in hearty sympathy with the movement, but the affair developed a different aspect than was expected. He did not believe that the cenexpected. He did not believe that the cen-tral committee would permit a repetition of such scenes as were witnessed at the last convention, and he considered it a "skin game" to work in Ingersoll and Adams. "There will be lively times," he said, "at the meeting Thursday night, I can assure you, and I doubt very much whether they will be able to get a nursur present." will be able to get a quorum present."

Sale of Meridian Hill Lots.

Messrs. Duncanson Bros. continued their sale yesterday, and, as there are still a large number of lots unsold, the sale will be again continued. The date of sales will be duly announced and attention called to them in THE REPUBLICAN. The sale will be con-tinued from day to day until all the lots are The REPUBLICAN. The sale will be continued from day to day until all the lots are disposed of. The prices obtained yesterday were considered low by those who are conversant with this property, and our readers should not fail to attend the next sales of they want to invest in desirable suburban property, some of the choicest locations still remaining. The sales yesterday were as follows: Lot 11, block, 14, to James W. Jones, for 10 cents per square foot; lots 29 and 39, block 12, to J. V. N. Huyck, for 12 cents per square foot; lots 29 and 24, block 12, to J. P. Woolse, for 9 cents per square foot; lot 16, block 12, to A. F. Fardon for Mrs. G., for 13† cents per square foot; lot 12, same block to Dr. Morris, for 9‡ cents per square foot; lot 4, block 11, to A. F. Fardon, for 10‡ cents per square foot; lot 4, block 17, sold for 13‡ cents and lot 5 for 11‡ cents per square foot, both to George F. Graham; let 6, block 16, to F. H. Loving for 13† cents per square foot; lot 6, bleck 17, same block, to F. H. Loving for 13† cents per square foot, and let 5, same block, to H. G. Forker, for 14 cents per square foot, and let 5, same block, to H. G. Forker, for 14 cents per square foot. for 14 cents per square foot.

Boyn and Brown will pitch and catch at Cap-

PERSONAL.

The leave of Capt. Eric Bergland, corps of engineers, has been extended one month. fieut, Col. Orlando M. Poe, corps of engineers, will be relieved May I from further duty in this ity and stationed in Detroit by order of the

Henry Adams and wife, New York; H. G. sepold, U. S. N.; C. C. Willis, U. S. N., are at the

Lieut, Com. O. W. Parenhall, who was ordered o torpedo service, has been directed to continue u duty aboard the Wabash.

Mrs. J. Tuckerman, Miss Lee, Salem; Mrs. Phomas Proctor, Boston B. Rowland, H. Rowland, Philadelphia, are at Wormley's.

Mr. John Keiter, Senator Riddleberger's private corretary, left for Richmond yesterday to attend he readjuster coalition convention.

E. H. Potter, Toledo, Ohio; J. S. Hennessey, New York: C. W. Hall, Philadelphia; H. S. Joi-fries and P. A. Wetch, New York, are at Willard's. The war department has assigned Brig. Gen. thevid S. Stanley to command the department of Texas, in place or Brig. Gen. MacKennie, retired.

11. H. Thomas, Warrenton, Va.; Aug. Morand, Pennsylvania, G. S. Smith and H. B. Tripo and wife, Bettimore, and Mrs. E. T. Allen, Boston, are at the Harris house.

Hichard G. Wood, wife, and three children, Pittshurg, George W. Sharp, Mrs. D. Eidgeley, Institutory, George Giffort and wife, Philadelphia, and J. M. Offett and wife, Brooklyn, are at the Riggs house.

Mr. and Mrs. Somuel Muller, of New Orleans, are gueste at Willard's. Mr. Muher is the sucre-bury of the world's cotton expedition, and has come to Washington to assist Maj. Burke in his inters in behalf of the expession.

abors in behalf of the exposition.

C.S. Woodbury, William W. Lesley, Philadellaina, Hugh I. Anderson, F. G. Dawson, London, Sina, Hugh I. Anderson, F. G. Dawson, London, Stogiand; H. W. Manney, U. S. N. Hon, C. E. Beers, G. L. Perry, Bristo, R. I.; Judge W. H. Tripp, Brookiya, Perry, Bristo, R. I.; Judge W. H. Tripp, Brookiya, Young mun's meeting at the Y. M. C. A.

THE THEATRICAL SEASON.

Interviews With the Managers of the National and Ford's-List of Coming Attractions at Both Places of Amuse-"Yes," said Mauager Kinsley, "we are just

about cleaing out one of the most successful theatrical seasons that we have had for years. The present engagement of Miss Abbott promises to come fully up to the standard. Next week we have John Mct sull's Operatic combination, opening on Monday night with the "Beggar Student." We expect good business, especially as the last three evenings of the week will be devoted to the production of John Souwa's new opera. "Desiree." Yes, that will be its Brat presentation. I've never read a line of the libretto or heard a note of the music, but McCaull has given extraordinary attention to it and in his judgment, which is worth a good deal, it is bound to be a decided success. His agent informs me that elaborate expenditures have been made in the matter of costumes and stage sittings for this opera, and the company is conceded to be the best by odds of the three that the full has on the road. The week following, May 5, we will have Miss Lizzie Evans in "Fogg's Ferry," and after that we have no dates positively filled until May 26, when the Boston Ideal Opera company will inaugurate a week of English opera under the susplees and for the benefit of the National Bifles, of this city. Yes, I think myself it will be a successful experiment for the National during the national Hides, of this city. Yes, I think myself it will be a successful experiment for the National during the coming summer. While there has been some discussion of the subject, no definite plans in this connection have yet been formulated. Mr. Albauch will retain the National during the next season. The new opera house will not be ready for occupancy until about the latter part of November at the earliest and consequently we have bealed meanly all open dates for the National."

From an attache of the National it was learned that Monday May 5, had been selected learned that Monday May 5, had been selected. about closing out one of the most successful theatrical sensons that we have had for years.

becked nearly all open dates for the National."

From an attache of the National it was learned that Monday, May 5, had been selected by Mr. Kinsley for his annual benefit, upon which evening will be presented. "Fogg's Ferry." which will be brought out in inimitable style. "We have one thing to back against," said the attache, "and that's Barnum's circus. We don't mind anything but the white elephant, and we've got around that. Sam has borrowed it from Phineas T. for that night only, and it will be exhibited. that. Sam has borrowed it from Phiness T. for that night only, and it will be exhibited, with all its attractions, between the acts. A speech? Well, I don't know. We've been trying to get up something for Sam to say between the acts, provided the boys call on him. He swears he had rather be hung than face the footlights that night, but he'll have to show up and eigh his friends a talk."

to show up and give his friends a talk."
At Ford's Messrs, Louis and Harry Ford
were found on deek. They admitted that
they had no fault to find with the business of they had no fault to find with the business of their cozy theater during the past season. They have their hands full this week with the New York Opera company, who are presenting in splendid style Strauss's comic opera of the "Queen's Laco Handkerchief." Next week they will have William Young's bright and sparkling melodrams, "The Rajah," which has just closed a most successful run of eight months at the Madison Square theater, New York. For the week beginning May 5 the Opera house has not yet positively booked anything, but expect to close with Milt Nobles for a week of his great sensational drama, "Love and the Law." sensational drama, "Love and the Law."
May 12 Fay Templeton's Operatic combination
will open this house for a week of light.
English opera to be presented by a wellselected and, in the opinion of the critics,
exceptionally strong company. This will
probably close the senson. It proposed during
the summer to make many material alterprobably close the season. It proposed during the summer to make many material alter-ations in the Opera house. Mr. Ford contem-plates a thorough overhauling of the audi-torium and such liberal expenditures in the way of new seats, painting and frescoing as will make this part of the house better than new. Another feature will be extension of the stage so as to materially increase its depth, together with the addition of commo-dious dressing rooms and other much-needed. dious dressing rooms and other much-needed accessories; For the next season Manager Ford has

already many dates taken, and says that, embracing as it will the election and insu-guration of a president, it will even surpass the one just closing.

Bosron's Unions vs. Nationals at Capitol park.

Meeting of Temperate Prople A very interesting meeting of Equal divis-sion, No. 3, Sons of Temperance, was held last evening at St. George's hall. The meating night of the division was changed from ing night of the division was changed from Tuesday to Friday. Several new members were received. A well selected programme was rendered, in which the following persons participated: Miss Simpson, Mrs. D. W. Houghton, Mrs. M. A. Naylor, Messrs. J. K. Watts, Arthur Knauer, J. R. McConnell, Dr. T. M. Baldwin, and the Equal Division choir.

St. Patrick's Fair Boycotted. The Federation of Labor unions at a mosting held last evening unanimously passed the

Resolved. That the Federation of Labor appre-dates the earnest efforts of the Hon. Wm. Hop-sins in behalf of the bill to establish a bureau of labor stalistics.

Hisotesel, That to is federation "boycott" St. Patrick's church fair, for the reason that the ac thorities of said building take considerable paint to hire scab labor from other cities.

Anacostions Wants Pavements. The dusty and unpaved streets of Anacostia, D. C., opposite the United States navy yard, have moved the citizens of that town to action. A meeting will be called in a few days and the commissioners petitioned to at least pave the sidewalks with old bricks and the roadways with cobble stones, if they cannot afford better materials.

Election at All Souls'. At a business meeting of the Society of All Souls' church held in the lecture room of the church, last evening, the following officers were elected: Secretary, William J. Canby; treasurer, George A. King; trustees, Hon. Dorman B. Eaton, Mr. H. B. Bennett, and Dr. John Edwin Mason.

CONDENSED LOCALS.

The free bridge bill will probably be reached by the senate some time this week, and it is thought will be passed.

Mrs. Acton, the venerable mother of Mrs. Guinaud, widow of the well-known East Washington coal dealer, was reported to be in a sinking condition last night.

The Sunday School Temperance union of Ryland chapel held a meeting last night, at which spacehas were delivered by the presi-dent and others. Nothing but routine busi-ness was transacted.

The commissioners have notified E. B. Laferty that they will have an inspector examine the condition of the Belt Line railroad track at the corner of Twelfth street and Ohio avenue, which he thinks is dangerous to horses and vehicles.

The request of Mary E. Scopp and others, that curbing and guiters be laid at the corner at E and Thirteenth streets northeast, will be compiled with on the usual conditions, the citizens paying for labor and the district furnishing material.

The commissioners have sent a letter to

President Oden Blowle, of the Baltimore and Potomac railroad, asking the company to make a proper crossing for vehicles over the tracks of that road on I street southeast, at the intersection of Canal street. Mal. William G. Brock, who met with

said William to brock, who met with a painful needdest a few days ago at the ad-jutant general's office by falling off a ladder and sprainfug his unble, is somewhat im-proved. It is feared, however, that he will be kept indoors for some time to come. A cart mule with several sores on his back caused the arrest of John White, a contractor, vesterday afternoon. The arrest was made by Agent Key, of the Humane society, who found the animal working in a cart. The case will be tried in the police court to-day.

A bill was introduced in the house yester day by Mr. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, amending the set to incorporate the Columbia atrect railway. The amendment extends the

izt? & Chestnut St. Philip.

parlors this evening at 7:15 o'clock. At 8 o'clock the literary seciety will held its regular meeting, to which all young men are invited. Reside the debate there will be a

nvited. Reside the debate there will be a regramme consisting of reading and recita

ARARE COLLECTION OF precious stones

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DRESS GOODS,
BLACK CHAPE VEILS IN ALL SIZES,
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WHITE GOODS OF ALL KINDS,
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GOODS.

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